GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:180
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2003
POLLUTION IN GROUND WATER
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that pollution in ground water has assumed serious proportion in many States;

(b) if so, the details and facts thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the ground water reserves which are depleting contain arsenic, mercury and other harmful chemicals;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check ground water pollution?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.180 FOR REPLY ON 03.03.2003 REGARDING POLLUTION IN GROUND WATER

The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), under the Ministry of Water Resources monitors ground water quality throughout the country on regular basis. The studies carried out by the CGWB indicate that the ground water in major parts of the country is by and large potable. There are, however, areas which have poor quality of ground water mainly due to the contamination from industrial and domestic effluents, excessive use of fertilizers, mining wastes, saline water ingress and due to the nature of the ground water bearing rock formations. The names of States and locations where ground water has been found contaminated and reasons thereof are given in enclosed Annexure.

As per studies conducted by the CGWB in West Bengal, arsenic has been found in shallow aquifers in eight districts of that State. Deeper aquifers in these areas have, however, been found free from arsenic.

Water being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to take steps to check ground water pollution. However, the Union Government has also taken following measures to mitigate the problem of ground water pollution:-

(i) The Central Government has set-up Central Ground Water Authority to regulate and control ground water management and development.

(ii) Mass awareness and education programme have been launched on the significance of water economy, efficient utilization, health, hygiene and sanitation.

(iii) Central Pollution Control Board has adopted several measures like directing the industries through State Pollution Control Boards to limit the discharge of effluent within the stipulated standards, initiation of scheme to give assistance to clusters of small scale industrial units for setting up common effluent treatment plants and taking up of quality scheme of monitoring in critically polluted areas.

(iv) The Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission, under the Ministry of Rural Development, has also been assisting and guiding the States in the provision of safe drinking water to the rural population under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and exclusive Sub- Mission project in areas having serious ground water quality problems like Fluoride, Iron, Arsenic, Nitrate and Brackishness. In such quality affected areas, where ground water is unfit for dinking, the safe drinking water is supplied either through alternative sources, tapping surface water or by other means by undertaking remedial measures like de- fluoridation, iron removal and arsenic removal.

(REFERENCE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.180 DATED 03.03.2003 REGARDING POLLUTION IN GROUND WATER)

STATE-WISE DETAILS OF CONTAMINATION OF GROUND WATER IN SOME AREAS OF THE DISTRICTS DUE TO VA CONTAMINANTS

SL.NO.	STATE	SALINITY	IRON	FLUORIDE	NITRATE	ARSENIC	HEAVY METALS
1.	Andhra Pra West Godavari, Krishna, Guntur, Prakasam Cuddapah, Kurnool,Mehboob-nagar,Rangareddy, Medak,Adilabad, Nalgonda,Khammam.	East Godavari,	Prakasam, Nellore, Anantapur, Nalgonda, Rangareddy, Adilabad	Vishakhapatnam, East Godavari, Krishna, Prakasam, Nellore, Chittoor, Anantapur,	Anantapur, Mehboobnagar, Prakasam, Visakhapatnam, Cuddapah, Nalgonda.		
2.	Assam	Bank of Brahmaputra	Northern Anglong	Nagaon, Karbi		Digboi	
3.	Bihar	Begusarai Muzaffar-pur, Gaya, Munger, Deoghar, Madhubani, Patna, Palamau, Nalanda, Nawada,Banka	Champaran, Dhanbad	Giridih,Jamui, Palamau, Gaya, Patna, Nalanda, Nawada, Bhagalpur, Sahebgunj, Banka		Muzaffarpur, Begusarai.	Dhanbad,
4.	Gujarat	Junagarh, Bharauch, Surat, Mehsana, Ahmedabad, Surendranagar, Kheda, Jamnagar	Banaskantha,	Kachch,Surendranagar, Rajkot, Ahmedabad, Mehsana, Banaskantha, Sabarkantha.			
5.	Haryana	Rohtak, Hissar, Sirsa, Faridabad, Jind, Gurgaon, Bhiwani, Mahendragarh	Sonepat,	Rohtak,Jind, Hissar,Bhiwani, Mahendra-garh, Faridabad	Ambala,Sonepat, Faridabad Hissar, Sirsa, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Rohtak, Bhiwani, Mahendragarh		Faridabad
6.	Himachal Pradesh			Kulu,Solan,Una		Purwanoo, Kalaamb	
7.	Karnataka	Raichur, Bellary, Dharwar	Bijapur, Belgaum,	Tumkur, Kolar, Bangalore, Gulbarga, Bellary, Raichur		Bhadrawati	
8.	Kerala	Trichur, Alleppey	Ernakulam,	Palghat			
9.	Madhya Pradesh	Morena, Jhabua,	Gwalior, Bhind,	Bhind, Moerana, Guna, Jhabua, Chhindwara, Seoni, Mandla,	Sehore	Bastar, Korba,	Ratlam, Nagda

	Khargaon, Dhar, Shivpuri, Shajapur, Guna, Mandsor, Ujjain	Raipur, Vidisha		
10.	Maharashtra	Amaravati, Akola.	Bhandara, Chandrapur,	Thane, Jalna, Beed, Nanded, Latur, Osmanabad, Solapur, Satara, Sangli, Kolhapur, Dhule, Jalgaon, Aurangabad, Ahmednagar, Pune, Buldana, Amravati, Akola, Nagpur, Wardha, Bhandara, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli
	Nanded, Aurangabad			
11.	Orissa	Cuttack, Baleswar, Puri	Parts of Coastal Orissa	Bolangir	Angul, Talcher
12.	Punjab	Bhatinda, Sangrur, Faridkot, Firozpur.	Ludhiana, Faridkot, Bhatinda, Sangrur,	Patiala, Faridkot, Firozpur, Sangrur,	Ludhiana, Mandi, Gobindgarh.
	Jalandhar, Amritsar.	Bhatinda.			
13.	Rajasthan	Bharatpur, Jaipur, Nagaur, Jalore, Sirohi, Jodhpur	Bikaner, Alwar, Dungarpur	Barmer, Bikaner, Jaipur, Churu, Ganganagar, Jalore, Nagaur, Pali, Sirohi.	Ganganagar, Bikaner, Jalore, Barmer, Bundi, Swai Madhopur.	Pali, Udaipur, Khetri.
14.	Tamil Nadu	Karaikal, Pondicherry, Nagapattanam, Quide-Millet, Pudukottai, Ramananthapuram, North Arcot-Ambedkar, Dharampuri, Salem, Trichy, Coimbatore.	Dharampuri, Salem, North Arcot-Ambedkar, Villipuram-Padayatchi, Muthuramalingam, Tiruchirapalli, Pudukottai.	Coimbatore, Periyar, Salem.	Manali, North Arcot.
15.	Tripura	Dharamnagar			
	Kauleshaher, Khowai, Ambasa, Amapur and Parts of Agartala Valley				
16.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra, Mathura, Mainpuri, Banmda.	Bulandshahar, Aligarh, Agra, Unnao, Rae-Bareli	Orai, Jhansi, Lalitpur, Faizabad, Sultanpur, Saharanpur, Aligarh.	Singrauli, Basti, Kanpur, Jaunpur, Allahabad,
	Maharajganj, Gorakhapur, Deoria				

17.	West Bengal	Midnapore, Howrah, Hooghli, Bankura	Birbhum Murshidabad, nas, Purulia Hoogly, Murshi dabad, Bardhaman, Howrah	UttarDinajpur, Malda, Malada,Birbhum, South-Nadia,Midnapur, 24 Howrah,	Durgapur, Howrah, Murshidabad, Paraga Nadia.
18.	NCT of Delhi	Najafgarh, Kanjhawala, and Mehrauli Blocks.	Blocks.	City Shahdara and Mehrauli Blocks.	Alipur, Kanjhawala, Najafgarh, Mehrauli City and Shahdara